

Town of Westford  
Pesticide Policy Committee  
Minutes of August 9, 2006  
6:00PM  
Westford Water Department  
60 Forge Village Road

*The following are minutes of the Town of Westford – Pesticide Policy Committee meeting of August 9, 2006. A permanent set of these minutes (maintained for a period of six years) is retained in the Town Clerk's office.*

Members Present: Citizen Representatives - Bill Harman, Jean LaRoche-Owens; Parks, Recreation, & Cemetery – Patricia Savage; Conservation Commission – Eric Fahle; WGC-WCT – Rose Marie Koester; WCT - Diane Duane; School Department – Richie Crocker; Water Department – Jessica Cajigas, Robin Fullford

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The meeting was called to order at 6:05PM.

AGENDA

- Approval of meeting minutes of June 22, 2006, June 28, 2006, and July 12, 2006.  
Action: Meeting minutes approved from the June 22 and 28, 2006 meetings. Approval of the July 12, 2006 meeting was postponed until the next meeting.
- Finalize discussion of Draft Pesticide Policy.  
Action: The Committee finalized the discussion of the Draft Pesticide Policy.  
Revisions/Additions (attached) were made to:
  - Section 6 – Pesticide Advisory Committee – Changed the number of citizen representatives to five.
  - Section 9 – Pesticide Use Log – Added text that the information in each Pesticide Use Log will be made current at the time of any pesticide application on Town-owned land.
- Other discussions – The committee discussed Bill Harman's suggestion to state a preference for "non-staff residents" on the Pesticide Advisory Committee. The committee agreed not to change the text to "non-staff residents" citing the loss of staff member expertise on the committee, the loss of information exchange among staff and non-staff residents, and the inability for town committees/commissions to appoint a non-staff representative.

The committee discussed adding a list of some Town-owned lands to the policy. The committee agreed not to add the list to the policy. In the future, the Pesticide Advisory Committee can provide the list on a website and work to educate the public on who owns what lands in town. Members of the public may also be directed to the Open Space Plan for information on property ownership.

The committee discussed the implementation of the Pesticide Use Log. Richie Crocker stated that it would not be difficult to do at each of the schools. Any applications on school property are already recorded, but it would just be a matter of educating school staff (main office employees) as to the location of the information. Jean stated that several principals and assistant principals she had spoke with would fully support the use of the Pesticide Use Log. Jean said she would contact other principals to see if they also would support its implementation.

Diane reported that some towns have had a difficult time completing/implementing a Town pesticide policy. Some towns have been very resistant to change.

Next meeting date – August 30, 2006

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25PM